

March 4, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution Email

FROM: Christine Caruso Magee
Configuration Manager, NCEP Central Operations

SUBJECT: Scheduled Operational Changes and Upgrades for
CPC, OPC, and WPC

Climate Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of March 7, 2016:

RFC #595 – Remove an obsolete rsync of GFS post-processed WCOSS data from CPC's work1 workstation to the compute farm (CF). This change is being made since this data transfer has since been replaced by a more efficient data transfer process directory from WCOSS to the CF. To be implemented on March 7 at 2100Z

The following RFCs are in progress:

None

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of March 7, 2016 may affect CPC:

RFC #1753 – Modify the DBNet tables to begin sending non-operational CPC created OMPS products from WCOSS to the DDS. This is being done at NESDIS's request to assist in their development of new derived products. To be implemented on March 7 at 1300Z.

RFC #1755 – Modify the Dataflow mirror software on NCOSRV to begin bringing in the AVHRR 4km satellite images, as requested by CPC. To be implemented on March 7 at 1500Z.

RFC #1756 - NetCDF4-Python v4-1.2.1 - IBM will install the Python NetCDF4 software on Luna and Surge in /gpfs/hps/usrx/local/prod. This software reads and writes NetCDF files. To be implemented on March 7 at 1600Z.

RFC #1757 – python-argparse v1.2.1-2.1 - IBM will install the RHEL python-argparse RPM as requested by NCO on all compute and service nodes on Tide and Gyre. This software is already on the Cray systems. To be implemented on March 7 at 1600Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect CPC:

None

Ocean Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of March 7, 2016:

RFC #593 - Update experimental VGF creation script for operational evaluation. Make improvements to the 'create_xml.pl' script, based on forecaster input, including not plotting highs/lows/maxes/mins by default, smoothing EMSL over land only, and eliminating odd line segments. To be implemented on March 7 at 1300Z.

RFC #597 – For the ensemble-based Probabilistic Wind/Wave image generation and dissemination, turn off meta file creation for CMCE, GEFS, NAEFS, ECENS and COMBINED products, update OPC website's probabilistic wind images for improved visualization, and add probabilistic wave images. All processing is done in a single script. To be implemented on March 8 at 1500Z.

The following RFCs are in progress:

None

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of March 7, 2016 may affect OPC:

RFC #1761 – ecmwf v2.0, ecmwf_mos v1.0.5, genesis_tracker v3.4.2, ens_tracker v1.1.6 - ECMWF is upgrading their model, so the filenames in /dcom on WCOSS are being changed. All remaining ecmwf jobs will be ported to WCOSS Phase 2. To be implemented on March 8 at 1200Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect OPC:

None

The following NCO RFCs, which may affect OPC, were approved with an implementation date TBD:

RFC #1357 – RTOFS global v1.1.0 – Major upgrade of the Global RTOFS model. See the TIN at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-36global-rtofsaaa.htm> for details. This was advertised as having an October 6 implementation date but this implementation is being postponed due to a delay in the Navy's HYCOM model upgrade. Once the HYCOM upgrade is implemented, the Global RTOFS will be scheduled for implementation. The Navy hopes to upgrade HYCOM in FY16Q3. Notification will be given in advance so users may prepare for any changes which may affect them. This upgrade of the Global RTOFS was approved by the NCEP Director.

Weather Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of March 7, 2016:

RFC#594 - The scripts that create the day 4-7 Winter Outlook guidance will be upgraded to use downscaled WPC QPF. This change entails inserting downscaled QPF, and adjusting the ensemble mean QPF. The goal of this change is to improve Day 4-7 probabilistic snowfall forecasts over the higher terrain of the western U.S. To be implemented beginning March 7 1600Z and should be completed by 2200Z on March 16.

RFC #596 - Update the Watch/Warning criteria map to include update information based on directive NWSI 10-513. To be implemented on March 8 at 1300Z.

The following RFCs are in progress:

RFC #592 – Upgrade the WPC forecast verification system (fvs) to v2016.02. Executable files, scripts, and text files for fvs will be updated on the server to give users access to new features. This has no direct effect on any operational script or product. Implementation began on March 3 at 1200Z and should be completed by 1800Z on March 17.

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of March 7, 2016 may affect WPC:

RFC #1761 – ecmwf v2.0, ecmwf_mos v1.0.5, genesis_tracker v3.4.2, ens_tracker v1.1.6 - ECMWF is upgrading their model, so the filenames in /dcom on WCOSS are being changed. All remaining ecmwf jobs will be ported to WCOSS Phase 2. To be implemented on March 8 at 1200Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect WPC:

None

Please note that security-related RFCs are never listed in the RFC memo.

---- OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ----

The CPC/OPC/WPC Configuration Management documents are available at <https://sites.google.com/a/noaa.gov/nws-ncep-nco-cm/>.

Please review these documents if you have questions prior to submitting changes for CPC/OPC/WPC configurable items.